

processes beneath Rapa Nui generated the differentiated rocks--the rhyolites in particular--that we see on the surface of the island today. Data collected from these samples will include petrography from thin sections, whole rock chemistry, isotope geochemistry, and microprobe mineral analyses. This study will be the major part of McCormick's Ph.D. thesis at Johns Hopkins University.

International News

- An alert reader of *RNJ*, Marcia Opal, sent us a notice of a Chicago area quintet, Certain Distant Suns, who have a new release out called *Dog Rocket*. The cover consists of a scene showing the statues in Rano Raraku's quarry. What connection there is, if indeed there is one, is a mystery.

- *RNJ* aficionado, Bernhard Kroll of Hamburg, Germany, sent us a photograph of three glum-looking moai standing in the rain and snow at Meine, Germany (between Wolfburg and Braunschweig, lower Saxony). The three styrofoam statues were obtained from a German quiz show sometime in the 70's and now are eye-catchers beside a country road where they advertise a training school for animals.



Children wearing only body paint await the arrival of one of the "traditional boats" coming into the caleta during the Tapati Rapa Nui festival. The children marched alongside the floats in a colorful parade that winds along the island's two paved streets.

- Dr. Francina Forment, Musées Royaux d'Art et d'Histoire, informs us that the Polynesian collection at the Museum is again visible for the public, following a long period of closure.



The work at Tongariki was progressing early in February, with five statues (three without heads) erected on the ahu. However, work halted (as of press time) when unpaid crews went on strike.

- The latest word on the Costner film "Rapa Nui" is that it will be in US movie theatres next September, although it may be shown in England this spring. A book has been produced about how the movie was made; it is due in bookstores this spring.

- The 1st International Conference for Marquesan Studies will take place from 14-18 July, 1995, at Taiohae, Marquesas. Titled "The Marquesas: From the Past into the Future", this conference is sponsored by the Pa'evi'i Center for Marquesan Studies.

An interdisciplinary conference, it is planned in conjunction with activities commemorating the 400th anniversary of the arrival of Mendaña and Quiros in the Marquesas. Four days of meetings will be followed by an optional five day program of festivities throughout the archipelago. The official language of the conference will be French with translation into English and Marquesan.

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